

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Thursday, January 28, 2016

Anjali Julka
Phone: 312.793.9635

Ron Payne
Phone: 217.557.1869

Metro Area Unemployment Rates Continue Rising

Job Growth Remains Slow

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	December 2015	December 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	4.8%	0.6
Carbondale-Marion	6.5%	6.0%	0.5
Champaign-Urbana	5.4%	5.0%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.6%	5.6%	0.0
Danville	7.4%	7.0%	0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.9%	5.9%	0.0
Decatur	7.4%	7.0%	0.4
Elgin	6.2%	6.0%	0.2
Kankakee	7.0%	6.8%	0.2
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.8%	5.7%	0.1
Peoria	7.0%	6.2%	0.8
Rockford	7.2%	6.9%	0.3
Springfield	5.4%	5.3%	0.1
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.1%	6.1%	0.0
Illinois Statewide	5.9%	5.8%	0.1

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—Illinois jobs decreased in six metropolitan areas and unemployment rates increased in eleven regions, according to data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The unemployment rate remained the same in three areas and one metro area saw no change in non farm jobs. The not seasonally adjusted data compares over-the-year change from December 2015 with December 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in areas including the Quad Cities (-2.4 percent, -4,500), Decatur (-1.8 percent, -900), Carbondale-Marion (-1.3 percent, -700), and Lake-Kenosha (-1.3 percent, -5,100). Illinois businesses added jobs in seven metros including Elgin (+1.6 percent, +4,100), Champaign-Urbana (+0.8 percent, +900), Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+0.7 percent or +26,800), and Danville (+0.7 percent, +200). Two industries recorded job growth: Education and Health Services (nine sectors) and Leisure and Hospitality (eight sectors).

“Illinois took another hit on jobs and many metro areas continue to absorb these hits,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Since the

previous jobs peak in 2007, only three out of fourteen metro areas have regained the jobs lost during the recession.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.9 percent in December 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in December and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – December 2015

Metropolitan Area	December 2015*	December 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	95,100	95,000	100
Carbondale-Marion MSA	54,500	55,200	-700
Champaign-Urbana MSA	110,600	109,700	900
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,658,100	3,631,300	26,800
Danville MSA	29,700	29,500	200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	179,500	184,000	-4,500
Decatur MSA	50,300	51,200	-900
Elgin Metro Division	255,700	251,600	4,100
Kankakee MSA	45,700	45,700	0
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	396,400	401,500	-5,100
Peoria MSA	178,700	178,400	300
Rockford MSA	152,000	152,300	-300
Springfield MSA	112,900	112,400	500
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	230,500	231,400	-900
Illinois Statewide	5,949,700	5,951,300	-1,600

*Preliminary **Revised

- (continued) -

53**16



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2014	Over- the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA			
DeWitt County	6.2%	5.6%	0.6
McLean County	5.3%	4.8%	0.5
Peoria MSA			
Marshall County	7.5%	6.2%	1.3
Peoria County	7.3%	6.6%	0.7
Stark County	7.4%	6.8%	0.6
Tazewell County	6.9%	6.0%	0.9
Woodford County	5.6%	5.0%	0.6
Ottawa-Streator Area	7.6%	7.0%	0.6
Bureau County	7.1%	6.7%	0.4
LaSalle County	7.7%	7.2%	0.5
Putnam County	6.4%	6.5%	-0.1
Galesburg Area	6.6%	6.1%	0.5
Knox County	6.6%	6.1%	0.5
Warren County	5.8%	5.0%	0.8
Cities			
Bloomington City	5.4%	4.9%	0.5
Galesburg City	6.9%	6.4%	0.5
Normal City	5.2%	4.5%	0.7
Pekin City	8.3%	7.3%	1.0
Peoria City	7.4%	6.6%	0.8
Counties			
Fulton County	8.1%	7.5%	0.6
Henderson County	6.1%	5.2%	0.9
Henry County	6.7%	6.1%	0.6
Livingston County	5.9%	5.0%	0.9
Logan County	5.7%	5.5%	0.2
Mason County	7.7%	7.3%	0.4

Pontiac Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.9 percent in December 2015 from 5.0 percent in December 2014. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment was nearly unchanged at 14,250. Manufacturing (+150) increased while Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-50), Educational and Health Services (-50), and Leisure-Hospitality (-50) had the largest declines from a year ago.

Note:

Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

###

Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 8,500 positions in December and approximately 85 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Bloomington MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.4 percent in December 2015 from 4.8 percent in December 2014. There were an estimated 5,400 unemployed people in the labor force in December 2015.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+100). Job gains were reported in Professional and Business Services (+400), Retail Trade (+400), Leisure and Hospitality (+200), Education and Health Services (+200), and Other Services (+100). Government (-900) and Construction (-300) reported declines. All other major industry sectors were unchanged compared to a year ago.

Peoria MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.0 percent in December 2015 from 6.2 percent in December 2014. There were an estimated 13,200 unemployed people in the labor force in December.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+300) compared to December 2014. Job gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+2,900), Educational and Health Services (+800), and Government (+100). Declines were reported in Professional and Business Services (-1,400), Manufacturing (-1,000), Retail Trade (-600), Construction (-400), and Wholesale Trade (-100).

Ottawa-Streator Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.6 percent in December 2015 from 7.0 percent in December 2014. Nonfarm payrolls increased (+100) from a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Professional-Business Services (+175) and Financial Activities (+125). Government (-100), Manufacturing (-50), and Information (-50) had the largest declines.

Galesburg Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.6 percent in December 2015 from 6.1 percent in December 2014. Nonfarm payroll employment was (+25) higher than last year. Retail Trade (+75), Professional and Business Services (+50), Manufacturing (+50), and Leisure and Hospitality (+50) added jobs. Losses were reported in Other Services (-75), Information (-50), Financial Activities (-25), and Government (-25).